

**ORIENTATION GUIDE FOR
LOUISIANA
HOUSE MEMBERS**

2000 - 2004 TERM

**THE LOUISIANA HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES
OCTOBER 1999**

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2000 - 2004 Term

An introduction to the legislative branch of state government revised quadrennially and intended to serve as background information for newly elected members of the Louisiana House of Representatives.

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To: All Members of the House of Representatives

As the members of the House of Representatives prepare to embark on a new term of office, the Orientation Guide for Louisiana House Members: 2000 - 2004 Term is designed as a practical tool for each House Member. With the advent of term limits, the House staff understands the urgency for all members, and in particular the new members, to quickly and fully understand the intricacies of the legislative process. Accordingly, this Guide is focused on new House members, introducing the legislature as an institution and the responsibilities of each members of the institution. However, it is also intended to be a resource and guide for returning members, and for staff as well.

This new edition of the Guide discusses recent changes in House procedure as it reviews the essentials of the legislative process. It describes the staff services and information sources available to House members, including new technology that gives the public easier and greater access to the legislative process and provides new sources of information to aid House members in their roles as lawmakers and as problem solvers for their constituents.

The Guide was prepared by the House Legislative Services Staff, a professional team of analysts, attorneys, economist, demographic specialist, librarians, and support staff and by members of the general House Staff, all of whom are dedicated to providing the House of Representatives and its members with the highest quality services. It is to this talented staff that we express our appreciation.

Most of all, we hope that this Guide demonstrates the many ways in which the entire staff of the House can ably assist each of you -- and how much we want to do so.

Whatever it is that we can do to help you, don't hesitate to call.

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